

REMARKS

Claims 8-19 are pending in the above-identified application. Claims 1-7 have been canceled, and claim 1 has been incorporated into claim 8. Support for new claims 14-19 is found at pages 2-3 of the specification, as well as in original claims 2-7. It is submitted that all of the presently pending claims are fully supported by the original disclosure of the present application, and should be entered of record.

Allowable Claims 8-19

Claims 8-13 were indicated to be in allowable form and were merely objected to as being dependent upon rejected base claims. Claim 8 has been amended so as to be in independent form by incorporating base claim 1 into claim 8. Claims 9-13 all depend from claim 8. Consequently, all of claims 8-13 have been placed into allowable form. Likewise, new independent claim 14 recites a method of producing a silicone base rubber article which is analogous to the method recited in allowable claim 8, but which employs an additional monomeric unit of formula (3). Consequently, new claim 14 is allowable for the same reasons that claim 8 is allowable. Also, since new claims 15-19 all ultimately depend from

claim 14, these claims are also placed into allowable form. Thus, all of claims 8-19 are in allowable form.

Removal of Issues Under 35 U.S.C. 102(b)

Claims 1-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) for the reasons indicated at page 2 of the Office Action of April 13, 2004. Since all of claims 1-7 have been cancelled, the bases for these rejections have been removed, and it is requested that these rejections be withdrawn.

Conclusion

It is submitted for the reasons stated above that the present claims define patentable subject matter such that this application should now be placed condition for allowance.

If any questions arise regarding the above matters, please contact Applicant's representative, Andrew D. Meikle (Reg. No. 32,868), in the Washington Metropolitan Area at the phone number listed below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees

Appl. No. 10/647,481

required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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